

Application No. 09/580,007  
Amendment dated May 21, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2004

#### REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 2 through 63, 197 and 198 are pending. Claims 3, 12, 20, 28, 36, 42, 44 and 52 have been amended, and claim 198 is new.

#### **Amendments to the Claims**

The Examiner submitted a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 for failing to include a complete listing of all the claims of the application. Applicants have included references to the cancelled and withdrawn claims of the previous amendments. In addition, Applicants further amend claims 3, 12, 20, 28, 36, 44 and 52 by replacing the original chemical rendering with a clearer version showing stereochemistry of carbon bonds. Because such stereochemistry is inherent in carbon bonds, no new matter has been added. Finally, claim 42 has been amended to remove reference to hyaluronic acid, a biomaterial now covered individually in new claim 198.

#### **New Claim**

Claim 198 has been added which specifically claims hyaluronic acid as a biomaterial of the invention. Hyaluronic acid appears as a biomaterial exemplar throughout the specification, so no new matter has been added.

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CONCLUSION

Prompt and favorable consideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that there is no fee due at this time. However, any deficiency or overpayment may be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,



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